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BLACK, OTHER INDIANA, MICHIGAN WORKERS TO RECEIVE RETRAINING

WASHINGTON -- About 1,200 dislocated workers in Indiana and southern Michigan, many whom are black, will receive retraining and other services to help them find new jobs from a $1.2 million grant to the state of Indiana announced by Labor Secretary William E. Brock.

The grant is designed to help former workers from the Chassis and Brake Component Division of Allied-Bendix Corporation at South Bend, Ind.

The state will turn the federal funds over to the St. Joseph(Ind.) County Job Training Program, which will offer on-the-job and classroom-type training in new skills, basic adult education, job development, placement and counseling services, relocation aid and other support services.

Brock said the services will be offered under Title III of the federal Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), which is designed to help workers who have been, or are about to be laid off due to permanent closing of a plant or other facility.

"These resources represent a job retraining lifeline for workers who face economic adversity in the process of a changing economy," Brock said.

JTPA Title III also helps laid-off workers who are unlikely to be able to return to their old industry or occupation and long-term unemployed persons with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

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Week of October 28, 1985

BLACK, OTHER LAID-OFF IOWA, OHIO WORKERS
TO RECEIVE TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON -- Labor Secretary William E. Brock announced that he has certified 910 black and other laid-off workers in Iowa and Ohio as eligible to apply for benefits under the Trade Act of 1974.

The certifications, which allow training and other job-related assistance to workers losing their jobs because of foreign imports, will benefit:

- 700 workers who were engaged in production of steel and tapered roller bearings at Timken Company Specialty Steel and Bearing Plants in Canton, Ohio, and

- 210 who were producing engine valves at the Engine Components Division of Eaton Corporation, Belmond, Iowa.

In the case of Timken's Specialty Steel Plant, production and employment declined during the first four months of 1985 compared with the same period in 1984, while customers accounting for a significant portion of Timken's sales decline increased their purchases of imported products.

U.S. imports of alloy steel pipe and tubing increased in 1983 compared with 1984 and again in the first three months of 1985 compared to the same period in 1984, Brock said.

At the Bearings Plant of Timken Company, production and employment also declined during the first four months of 1985 compared with the same period in 1984. U.S. imports of tapered roller bearings increased in 1984 compared with 1983 and in the first three months of 1985 compared with the same period in 1984, according to Brock.

Eaton Corporation announced in January that it would stock a major client, previously supplied by its Belmond plant, through company facilities in Italy and Brazil. Company imports for this customer increased during the first half of 1985 compared with the same period in 1984 while the Belmond plant experienced sales, production and employment declines in January-April 1985, compared with the same period a year earlier. Major layoffs occured at the plant in February, April and May 1985.

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The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance, a division of the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration, conducted the investigations which provided the basis for the certifications. The impact date is Nov. 1, 1984, for workers laid off from the Timken Company's Specialty Steel and Bearing Plants in Canton. Anyone terminated from a job at these facilities on or after this date is eligible for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) benefits. The impact date at Eaton Corp. is Jan. 1, 1985.

Secretary Brock said the TAA program provides cash compensation for a total of 52 weeks at the same rate paid weekly for regular unemployment insurance (UI) in the state. Eligible workers would receive the difference between 52 weeks and the number of weeks for which they had already collected UI benefits.

Certified workers are also eligible for training, job search and relocation aid and other employability services. When enrolled in an approved training program, workers may receive up to 26 additional weeks of cash benefits.

The employment security agencies in Ohio and Iowa will administer assistance through local employment service offices, while cash benefits will be administered through local unemployment insurance offices.

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Week of October 28, 1985

STATE AND METROPOLITAN AREA EMPLOYMENT
AND UNEMPLOYMENT: AUGUST 1985

WASHINGTON -- August unemployment rates were below those of a year earlier in 25 States and the District of Columbia, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Over this same period, the national civilian worker unemployment rate fell from 7.3 to 6.9 percent, not seasonally adjusted. Nonfarm payroll employment increased over the year in 42 States and the District of Columbia.

Because these State and area data are not adjusted for seasonality, over-the-month comparisons are not made in this release. In many cases, such comparisons would provide a misleading picture of underlying economic trends. Comparisons are therefore limited to changes from the same month a year earlier, which are not affected by seasonal movements.

Unemployment

Of the 25 States reporting over-the-year declines in unemployment rates for August, eight had decreases of 1 percentage point or more. The largest took place in Alabama (2.5 points), Pennsylvania (2.3 points), New Jersey (1.7 points), Washington (1.5 points), and New York (1.4 points). Unemployment rose 1 point or more over the year in eight States--Arizona, Delaware, Georgia, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Texas, and Wyoming. Nineteen States reported rates below 6 percent with the lowest in New Hampshire (3.4 percent) and Massachusetts (3.7 percent). West Virginia, at 12.4 percent, continued to have the highest rate. Louisiana and Mississippi also had rates in the double digits. (See map)

Out of 253 areas for which August unemployment rates are available, Portland, Me. (2.5 percent), Manchester, N.H. (2.6 percent), and Iowa City, Iowa (2.7 percent) had the lowest rates. McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, Tex., continued to have the highest rate (20.5 percent), followed by Lake Charles, La. (13.7 percent), Lakeland-Winter Haven, Fla. (13.6 percent), and Beaumont-Port Arthur, Tex. (13.5 percent). The largest over-the-year reductions in the jobless rate were in Vineland-Millville-Bridgeton, N.J. (4.8 percentage points) and Sharon, Pa. (4.2 points). Unemployment rose by more than 2 points in 11 areas, with the largest increase in Kenosha, Wisc. (4.6 points).

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Employment

Nonfarm payroll employment, as measured by the monthly survey of nonagricultural establishments, increased by 2 percent or more between August of 1984 and 1985 in 26 States and the District of Columbia. Arizona, Florida, Georgia, and New Hampshire had the most rapid over-the-year job growth, with increases in excess of 5 percent. The States adding the most jobs were California (240,000), Florida (220,000), and New York (180,000). Of the eight States with declining employment, West Virginia and Louisiana had the largest rates of decline--3.1 and 1.3 percent, respectively. Nearly all of the States reported job gains in finance, insurance, and real estate; trade; services; and government. Services and trade accounted for almost four-fifths of the increase over the year in total nonagricultural employment. In contrast, almost three-fourths of the States reported decreases in manufacturing employment over the year.

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FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Workers eligible for trade adjustment assistance may receive a relocation allowance to help them move their families and household goods to their new area of employment, plus a lump sum payment -- not to exceed $600 -- to help them get settled. Workers may be paid 90 percent of their moving expenses, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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The Trade Adjustment Assistance program provides cash benefits called trade readjustment allowances, employability services, training, and job search and relocation allowances to workers displaced from their jobs because of increased foreign imports, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics uses a scientific sample of homes, designed and selected by the Census Bureau, to prepare its monthly Employment Situation report, according to a Labor Department fact sheet.

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The U.S. Department of Labor's Division of Cooperative Labor-Management Programs works with national unions, trade associations, productivity and quality of work life centers, and other organizations and government agencies in promoting joint labor-management solutions to workplace problems.

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